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# State of Utah DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

Norman H. Bangerter Governor Dee C. Hansen Executive Director Dianne R. Nielson, Ph.D. Division Director

355 West North Temple 3 Triad Center, Suite 350 Salt Lake City, Utah 84180-1203 801-538-5340

Date: MARCH 1, 1991  Number of Pages Including This Cover Sheet: 8
TO: ELLIOTT LIPS, JBR CONSULTANTS
Phone: (Fax) 942-1852
FROM: D. WAYNE HEDBERG  Minerals Reclamation and Development Program
Phone: (801) 538-5340
SUBJECT: DWR COMMENTS ON TENNECO REVISION
AND DOGM RESPONSE TO SAME.
REMARKS: PURSUANT TO YOUR TELEPHONE REQUEST (3/1/91),
I'M SENDING THE ABOVE REFERENCED DOCUMENTS.
PLEASE CALL ME, OR HOLLAND SHEPHERD IF YOU
HAVE QUESTIONS WITH THESE LETTERS.
P.S I'VE ALSO ENCLOSED (SENDING) COPY OF RDCC
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MN9/61



State of Utah
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

March 1, 1991

Mr. Bruce L. Bonebrake Division Wildlife Resources Southern Region P. O. Box 606 Cedar City, Utah 84721-0606

Dear Mr. Bonebrake:

Re: Response to DWR Review Comments, Tenneco Amendments, Goldstrike Mine, M/053/005, Washington County, Utah

Thank you for your January 30, 1991, comments concerning the Tenneco MRP amendment. Based on your comments, the Division will recommend that Tenneco incorporate the following changes into their mining and reclamation plan (MRP):

- 1. Tenneco should add the following species into their reclamation seed mix: Intermediate wheatgrass, Lewis flax, Gooseberryleaf and/or scarlet globemallow, Bottlebrush squirreltail, Luna pubescent wheatgrass, Wyoming big sagebrush, and White-stemmed rubber rabbitbrush.
- 2. Tenneco should change the time of planting in the MRP from "sometime after October 1st", to a period between November and January.
- 3. The reclaimed areas should remain fenced during the time period that plants are becoming reestablished.

On page 24 of the mine plan, commitments are provided to keep open solution ditches covered to minimize/prevent wildlife mortalities. Unfortunately, the Division cannot support the idea of deep ripping topsoil and waste at this particular site. Given the small amount of topsoil available, the process would dilute the beneficial effect of topsoil application too much. Also, because the operation is experiencing a topsoil deficit, areas of the site will be topsoiled with 6-8 inches of material; 12 inches is preferable, but unfortunately, unfeasible at this site.

Page 2 Mr. Bruce Bonebrake Tenneco Comments March 1, 1991

Thank you again for your input. We look forward to working with you on this and other mine projects in the future.

Sincerely,

D. Wayne Hedberg Permit Supervisor

Minerals Regulatory Program

jb

cc: Ken Kluksdahl, Tenneco

Elliott Lips, JBR Lowell Braxton Holland Shepherd

MNM053005.4

### February 12, 1991

TO:

Wayne Hedberg, Permit Supervisor

FROM:

Holland Shepherd, Reclamation Specialist

RE:

DWR Comments on Tenneco Plan, Tenneco Minerals Company,

M/053/005, Washington County, Utah

I've reviewed the attached Wildlife Resources letter. The following are comments based on the review:

- 1. The operator has committed to cover cyanide solution ditches in the MRP, page 24.
- 2. The comment on topsoiling and ripping, we cannot concur with. The operator has been approved, already, for soil depths of 6 and 8 inches on portions of the site. We have asked the operator to topsoil with 12 inches over the proposed waste and leach areas. The operator will be facing a deficit regarding topsoil application, so will not be able to meet a 12 inch minimum requirement.

The operator has already committed to a 1 foot ripping scenario prior to topsoiling and 1 foot following topsoil application. We have agreed to this. I don't think ripping both topsoil and waste, together, to a depth of 2 - 4 feet is the best reclamation procedure here. It would dilute the beneficial effect of the topsoil too much, given the small amounts to be used at reclamation.

3. We could recommend that the operator incorporate some of the species DWR has listed, which are not already on the list. I have placed a circle next to those species.

I think the planting timeframe DWR advises is better than what was proposed by Tenneco. Tenneco's planting window falls sometime after October 1st. DWR advised planting between November and January.

DWR also advises keeping the area fenced while plants are being established. I saw nothing in the permit committing to do this. I think it should be incorporated into the plan. Livestock will be particularly damaging to new growth on the site.



Norman H. Bangerter Governor Dee C. Hansen Executive Director Timothy H. Proyan Division Director

## State of Utah DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES DIVISION OF WILDLIFE RESOURCES

Southern Region 622 North Main Street P.O. Box 606 Cedar City, Utah 84721-0606 801-586-2455

January 30, 1991

D. Wayne Hedburg Mined Land Reclamation Program 3 Triad Center, Suite 350 Salt Lake City, UT 84180-1203

Dear Mr. Hedburg:

After reviewing the revised plan of operations for the Tenneco Goldstrike Project, UDWR has the following concerns and suggestions:

To aid in eliminating animal losses, cyanide solution ditches should be covered to prevent animals from drinking solution waters.

After consultation with our plant lab in Ephraim, we suggest the following procedures for reseeding during the reclamation process

- 1. Topsoil needs to be at least 12 inches in depth to adequately support seeds. The area shold be ripped 2-4 feet deep to mix topsoil and rock. This process would break up compacted soil catchment basins, increase water filtration and water holding capacity, improve rooting and create microhabitat and climates for germination, establishment and reproduction.
- Species recommended for your specific site that have the potential to grow well from direct seeding include:

Success of a great of

Palmer penstemon of Intermediate wheatgrass of Lewis flax of Gooseberryleaf and/or scarlet globemallow of Yellow sweetclover of Bottlebrush squirreltail of Desert bitterbrush of Luna pubescent wheatgrass of the Park of Par

As many of these species as possible should be incorporated into a seed mixture at an amount no less than 15 lbs. per acre. Additional adaptive species may be used depending on availability of seed.

an equal opportunity employer

Mr. D. Wayne Hedburg January 30, 1991 Page 2 3. The following shrub species can be successfully transplanted and should do well on the area. Wyoming big sagebrush White stemmed rubber rabbitbrush 4. All seeding should occur November-January, or prior to the summer storms in June and July. The area should be fenced to keep livestock out for at least two growing seasons. Care needs to be taken to insure that the area is not damaged once the fence is removed, since the area will probably have better quality forage than adjoining areas. Sincerely, Bruce L. Bonebrake Habitat Program Manager F. Claip Jensen Regional Supervisor BLB/FCJ/vt cc: David F. Everett, BLM Carolyn Wright Catherine Quinn, SLO

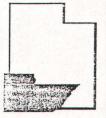
m/053/005

### Five County Association of Governments

906 North 1400 West St. George, Utah 84770

FAX (801) 673-3540





Post Office Box 1550 St. George, Utah 84771

(801) 673-3548

		Carried District				
		SOUTHWEST UTAH				
	AREAWIDE CLEARINGHOUSE A-95 REVIEW					
Type of Action:	Pre-Application _	Notification of Intent X	Application			
	Notice of Federal	Action				
Receipt Date	1-11-91	SAI NumberUT910110-01	O ACH Numb	er		
Applicant Identi	fication, Address	Division of Oil, Gas & Min 355 West North Temple 3 Triad Center - Suite 350 Salt Lake City, UT 84180-				
Applicant's Project		Fur	nding		N/A	
Title: REVISED NOTICE OF INTENTION TO COMMENCE MINING OPERATIONS FOR THE TENNECO GOLDSTRIKE PROJECT Description: Addition of 4 new open pits and the			Federal Supplemental State	\$	.,,	
enlargement of the padre pit, a new waste dump in Quail Canyon (effectively damming the drainage), expansion of HEAP Leach Pad H2 onto the new waste dump/fill, one new process solution pond TOTAL				\$		
and enlargement of one	existing pond, ictures and rel	minor alterations to the ocation of facilities ederal		ment	and Agency	

mine area to accommodate new pit development.
AREAWIDE CLEARINGHOUSE COMMENTS ON PROPOSAL FOR FEDERAL AID
Staff review completed (date) 1-11-91 Screening Committee review completed (date) 2-20-91 Executive Board Review Completed (date) Referred to originator for additional information (date)
Recommend Approval X Comments (see reverse side of page) X  Conditionally approved as follows (see reverse side of page)  Recommend Disapproval Comments (see reverse side of page)
The project described above ( X ) does ( ) does not conform with the policy or planning of the multijurisdictional area it directly impacts. Additional information ( ) is ( X ) is not needed.
We also serve notice that all requirements of the Project Notification and Review System for this multijurisdictional area have been met. Therefore, attach this letter to your application and forward to the federal funding agency.
If this project will be a renewal or continuation grant, please submit your application next year to this areawide clearinghouse for re-review 30 days prior to submission to federal funding agency.
If any Clearinghouse Comments go unresolved, Federal law requires the Applicant to attach a copy of all negative comments to the project application and forward them both to the Federal Funding Agency(ies).
We would anticipate reviewing final project application 30 days prior to submission for funding.
2-21-91
Authorizing Official Copy of review Sent to applicant.

BEAVER

GARFIELD

IRON

KANE

WASHINGTON

#### AREAWIDE CLEARINGHOUSE COMMENTS

The Division of Oil, Gas and Mining has received an application from Tenneco Minerals to expand the surface disturbance at the Goldstrike Mine in Washington County. The permit would allow the development of four new pits and associated developments. An additional 40 acres would be disturbed. The Washington County Commission has supported the Tenneco operation as an important addition to the regional economy. As long as all appropriate federal and state permits are obtained and complied with, the county would support the proposed enlargement. (Ken Sizemore)